Conversion of bulk terminal into container terminal at JNP

2025. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert one of the unutilised bulk terminals into container terminal of JNP with the involvement of private sector using BOT format;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the worker's union is against Government's move and has threatened to strike;

(d) if so, the views of workers' union; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) and (b) After taking into account the downward trend in bulk cargo traffic during the last few years and remote prospects for adequate bulk cargo traffic in future at Jawaharlal Nehru Port and the substantial potential for growth in container traffic in ports in future, a decision has been taken to re-develop the existing Bulk Terminal at Jawaharlal Nehru Port into Container Terminal. The Govenrment has, in principle, approved the re-develop of the Bulk Terminal on BOT basis.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The workers' unions are opposed to the proposal to convert Bulk Termainal into Container Terminal on BOT basis and want the conversion into Container Terminal and its operation to be done by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust itself or in a joint venture with Mumbai Port Trust.

(e) Encouragement of private participation in port sector with a view to induct private capital and expertise in developing and operating port facilities is a part of the liberalization policy of the Government. In this regard, Government have issued guidelines, which *inter alia* envisage that the interest of the existing labour will be fully protected while allowing private participation.